

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING GARY AMBLE

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Gary Amble of Kansas City, KS. For the last 30 years, Gary has worked for his community by broadcasting the weather. I would like to congratulate him on his retirement from KCTV5 and thank him for the invaluable service that he has provided Kansas over the last three decades.

In 1987, Gary graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in atmospheric science. Before his employment at KCTV5, Gary worked as the head anchor at WHO-TV in Des Moines, morning meteorologist for KDFA in Amarillo, weekend weathercaster for KSNT in Topeka, and chief weathercaster for Cable 6 in Lawrence. While in Des Moines, he worked 22 hours continuously live on the air covering the unprecedented flood of 1993, which affected nine States along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. He has described it as a highlight of his career. Gary's tenure at KCTV5 began in the summer of 1994, where he would stay for the next 28 years. There, he cemented himself as the Kansas City area's familiar face of weather, always charismatic and—most importantly—accurate whenever he came on screen. Because of his distinguished career, Gary has been awarded the American Meteorological Society seal of approval, and is currently a member of the society.

Tracking and reporting on the weather is great public service, so I take pride in recognizing Gary Amble as an exceptional member of the Kansas community. I would like to wish Gary and his family the best in this new chapter of their lives.●

REMEMBERING RUTH SCHEER

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor and memorialize a true representation of Kansas values. Mrs. Ruth Scheer departed this Earth on January 4, 2022, after a long life full of faith, family, service, and community.

Ruth was born and raised in Wichita, KS, where her parents, Clyde and Edith, provided a childhood full of love and support. She quickly picked up a love for music, beginning with the accordion before she turned 10. Her musical efforts, nurtured by her parents, continued to grow as she did. Ruth's talent and dedication were rewarded by the opportunity to perform in the National Piano Playing Auditions and winning multiple piano diplomas throughout high school and college. Her love of music and the arts continued as she started a family with her husband, Harold. She taught her children to play various instruments and sing. She even led the family to perform multiple operettas in the community as the "Scheer Delights."

Beyond music, Ruth also inspired children by publishing seven children's books. Each book contained different messages, but at the heart of her literary philosophy was finding the best version of one's self through God's guidance. These books have undoubtedly touched many lives, and I appreciate that she spent her career bringing such a wonderful sentiment to life.

Ruth practiced what she preached by finding the best version of herself and employing her time and talents with an impressive number of prominent organizations throughout Wichita. Highlights of her involvement include the First Evangelical Free Church, 3-time president of the Thursday Afternoon Music Club, member of the Alpha Beta Mothers Club, and she even received the Kansas Mother of the Year Award.

In my own life, my parents showed me the importance of community and staying involved. A strong, connected community benefits its members by fostering happiness and success. Ruth embodied what it means to be a community builder, mother, and teacher. Wichita is a better place because of her efforts. She is a role model everyone should strive to emulate in their own communities. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Ruth Scheer and celebrating a life well-lived.●

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY GABE VITT

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a true hero from Labette County, KS, Deputy Gabe Vitt. His quick thinking and expertise helped save the life of a woman in a situation only seen in movies.

Deputy Vitt was on patrol in Parsons, when he heard over his radio that a woman had been hit by a train. EMS was preparing to respond to the situation like they normally would, but the person calling about the accident disconnected before they could say where the woman was hit. By great luck and coincidence, Deputy Vitt was only a few blocks from the tracks.

Realizing that emergency medical services wouldn't be there in time, he rushed to the scene to find a woman with a severed leg. Making use of his EMT training from school at Labette Community College, Vitt was able to apply a tourniquet which stabilized the woman's leg steady, ultimately saving her life. After the incident, Deputy Vitt credited that training heavily, describing his heroics as a natural reaction to the situation. Had he not been nearby or received his EMT training, that woman may very well not be here today.

I want to thank this brave officer for being so courageous to dive headfirst into peril. As the son of a police chief, I know the risks our men and women in blue take on each day. I admire these unique citizens for continually working to ensure our safety. Deputy Vitt has shown what true valor looks like, and Labette County is safer because of him. I ask now that my colleagues show this

same admiration and recognition for Deputy Vitt and that he may stay safe protecting his community.●

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN J. NORMAN

• Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Stephen J. Norman on his retirement following 45 years of work in the community development and affordable housing industry. Stephen retires from Washington's King County Housing Authority, where he has served as executive director and been an extraordinary asset to our State and the greater Seattle-King County region for the last 25 years.

Under Stephen's leadership, KCHA has doubled the number of households served during his tenure and charted a path forward with an expansive vision of what a public housing authority can be in the 21st century. The authority's housing stock and tenant-based programming now house more than 55,000 individuals, including over 20,000 children. Stephen oversaw KCHA's designation as one of the first Moving to Work Housing Authorities in the country, a recognition that enabled KCHA to pioneer efforts to partner with the education, health, and workforce development sectors to support residents throughout King County.

As the former assistant commissioner for Homeless Housing Development in New York City, Stephen has always understood the importance of service-enriched supportive housing. I am particularly proud of the work that Stephen has undertaken to expand the HUD-VASH program in King County, connecting housing and service systems to support our veterans who are suffering the indignity of living outside.

Stephen has also been a staunch champion of broadening the geographic availability of affordable housing. KCHA has invested heavily in workforce housing, reflecting an ambitious Nation-leading effort to preserve existing housing in gentrifying and high-opportunity areas, and has pioneered mobility initiatives for families with children participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The Creating Moves to Opportunity Program research has served as the foundation for current efforts by the Federal Government to increase geographic choice and mobility for households with low incomes. Time and time again, under Stephen's leadership, KCHA's programs have paved the way for broader policy change at the State and Federal level.

The host of expansive housing and services programming at KCHA reflects Stephen's extraordinary skills in developing cross-sector partnerships, even in the most difficult of circumstances. With his wit, inquisitiveness, and relentless drive, Stephen has earned the collaboration and respect of leaders across the State and Nation. He has served as the president of the board of directors for the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities and was the